



News and Events in the 5th Grade

January 17th, 2012

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Important Dates

Now - Jan 26	Rocket into Reading
Week of Jan 30	Conferences
Feb 7	4th & 5th Grade Arts Showcase
April 3	Science Fair

Dear Families,

Conferences are right around the corner! You will again be meeting with only your child's homeroom teacher. If you would like to meet with a subject-area teacher, please contact that teacher to set up an additional conference. Your child's homeroom teacher should have contacted you regarding conference scheduling last week. If you did not receive an email about this from your child's homeroom teacher, please contact them as soon as possible. We will keep the same conference schedule as last semester, so please only respond if that time will not work for you this semester.

Now that we've had a significant snowfall, the office staff has some important reminders about recess and winter weather. Unless the temperature is below 0 degrees, we go outside for recess. Please be sure to send your child to school with appropriate clothing. If you don't want your child to go outside you will need to pick them up for lunch. We do not have staff available to supervise children who are not outside.

Students and special area staff have been working hard to prepare for the 4th and 5th Grade Specials Night which will be held on Tuesday, February 7th at 6 p.m. Please have students attend the specials night dressed casually (no dress shoes) so they can dance for music and move for P.E.! If any of you are interested in helping with the event (traffic flow, fund raising, video taping, etc.) please email Mrs. Karia at akaria@op97.org.

Specials

Art - Most 5th Graders have artwork on display at the Oak Park Public Library through the month of December. Come see our surrealistic self-portraits completed in the style of Renaissance artist Arcimboldo Giuseppe. The artwork is downstairs in the "Art Alcove" in the Children's Section. www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com

Music - The 5th Grade Specials Night is coming on Tuesday, February 7th. Please save the date! (More information to come later)

Spanish - Students are working with the story *Carlos y los Tres Monstruos*.
www.mpoleski.blogspot.com

Library - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.



Reading/Literature TREASURES - UNIT 3

Big Idea: Using Your Wits
(You can use your intelligence and creativity to solve problems.)

Theme: Trickster Tales

Comprehension: Compare/Contrast and Summarizing

Vocabulary: Homographs

Language Arts

Writing Focus: This week we will focus on how to respond

to literature in the format of an extended response. We will begin the week reading and evaluating examples of extended responses written by other Illinois 5th grades. We will then review how to use a graphic organizer to plan their writing and end the week with students writing and evaluating their own extended response.

Grammar Focus: Main and helping verbs

Math

This week, we will be working with polygons. Students will be constructing congruent triangles and will also be classifying polygons. Students will learn to calculate the sum of the interior angles of a polygon. We will continue to work on extended responses on Fridays. In an extended response problem, the student must solve a math problem and then explain what was done and why.

Science

Today we discussed the 5th grade Science Fair, which is scheduled for Tuesday, April 3. A parent letter with more details on the fair and a project timeline went home with students today. Detailed information is also posted on the Science page of the 5th grade wiki. Students should be thinking about their Science Fair projects. The first project deadline is Friday, January 27, when students must submit a testable question. In addition to working on Science Fair this week, we will also be conducting another investigation in our variables unit.

Social Studies

Students are learning all about the three regions of the early colonies and the notable people who led these colonies or dissented. We will have a test on Friday, January 20. All students received a study guide in class last Friday. Students who wish to work for a 4 on this test must answer one of the essay questions during the test time. The two essay prompts are on the study guide. Students can practice their essay at home and can choose either prompt during the test. We will continue to review the guide in class and will have a fun review session this week in the form of a Connect Four game. If your student does not have the study guide, it is available on the 5th Grade Wiki Social Studies page at: <http://5ksocialstudies.wikispaces.com/>

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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